

Application No. 10/044,207
Amendment "A" dated June 8, 2005
Reply to Office Action mailed April 4, 2005

REMARKS

The first Office Action, mailed April 4, 2005 considered and rejected claims 1-59 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 6,647,061 (Panusopone et al.), while claim 12 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent 6,647,061 (Panusopone et al), in further view of Wee et al. (Secure Scalable Streaming Enabling Transcoding Without Decryption. IEEE International Conference on Image Processing. October 2001).¹ Claim 49 was also rejected for informalities regarding claim dependency, which has been fixed by amendment.

By this paper, claims 1, 19, 33, 39, 49, 52 and 58 have been amended and new claim 60 has been added. No other claims have been added or cancelled, such that claims 1-59 remain pending for reconsideration, and of which the only independent claims at issue are claims 1, 19, 33, 39, 52 and 58. All of the pending claims are directed to embodiments corresponding to spatial transcoding a video stream.

Claim 1, for example, recites a method for transcoding an incoming video stream that includes:

decoding the incoming video stream, which includes at least one B frame, wherein parameters of the incoming video stream are extracted from the incoming video stream and used in generating a new video stream;

spatially reducing images of the incoming video stream by a selected factor and without discarding the at least one B frame, and such that the at least one B frame is considered during the spatially reducing images;

¹ Although the prior art status of the cited art is not being challenged at this time, Applicants reserve the right to challenge the prior art status of the cited art at any appropriate time, should it arise. Accordingly, any arguments and amendments made herein should not be construed as acquiescing to any prior art status of the cited art.

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generating a new video stream that includes spatially reduced images using one or more of the parameters extracted from the incoming video stream, wherein less than all of the parameters of the incoming video stream are re-computed for the new video stream.

Claim 19 is directed to a similar method, but wherein the transcoding and spatial reduction of the incoming video stream includes resampling. Claim 33 is also directed to a similar method, but wherein the transcoding and spatial reduction of the incoming video stream includes subsampling.

Claims 39 and 52 are directed to computer program product claims corresponding to the methods recited in claims 19 and 33, respectively. Finally, claim 58 is directed to a transcoder, which is configured to implement the foregoing methods.

As clarified by this paper, the transcoding and spatial reduction of the video stream includes transcoding a video stream that includes at least one B frame and without discarding the B frame, such that the B frame is considered during the transcoding and spatial reduction.² Claim 60 also further clarifies that the resulting video stream includes at least one B frame.

Although the cited art is generally directed to methods and systems for transcoding video, it clearly fails to anticipate or make obvious the claimed invention. In fact, Panusopone actually appears to teach away from the recited claim embodiments. For example, Panusopone actually states, with specific regard to the size transcoder that "B frames may be present in the input bitstream, but are discarded by the transcoder and therefore do not appear in the output bitstream." In view of this, Panusopone clearly does not teach or suggest the claimed invention and should not be used in combination with any other cited art, including, but not limited to Wee,

² Support for the new amendments and claims, includes the disclosure found in paragraphs 33, 37, and 60.

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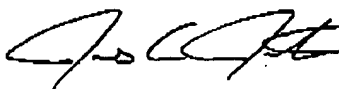
for purportedly teaching the claimed invention, in which the transcoding and spatial reduction includes consideration of B frames, particularly in combination with the other recited claim elements.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that the other rejections to the claims are now moot and do not, therefore, need to be addressed individually at this time. It will be appreciated, however, that this should not be construed as Applicants acquiescing to any of the purported teachings or assertions made in the last action regarding the cited art or the pending application. Instead, Applicants reserve the right to challenge any of the purported teachings or assertions made in the last action, including any official notice, at any appropriate time in the future, should it arise.

For at least the foregoing reasons, Applicants respectfully submit that the pending claims are neither anticipated by nor made obvious by the art of record. In the event that the Examiner finds and remaining impediment to a prompt allowance of this application that may be clarified through a telephone interview, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned attorney.

Dated this 8 day of June, 2005.

Respectfully submitted,



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